

# DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

A monthly magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers.

Vol. 28 No. 12

December 15, 1960

Whole No. 339

## Moyse For Choice

by Smithtown Charlie Duprez

Our esteemed editor and publisher Eddie LeBlanc has recently suggested that I write a short article on a brother now and then, he said "short" knowing I've been such a long winded guy with all my previous efforts on behalf of a brother. So I'll try to give Arthur Moyse of ye Brotherhood a going over and will try to spare the horses.

The reason I chose Arthur is due to his having written to me all the way from jolly ole London having seen some of my attempts in the Round-up to interest some of you fellers. Our correspondence became quite frequent and one day he startled me, not with a letter, exactly, but with an 11 x 14 beautifully illustrated sketch. The sheet held ten different sketches very nicely done and take it from me that boy jest ain't no slouch with his pen and colors. There followed for many months equal renderings and especially one received for my last birthday, a set of America's most noted comic strips, a character from each, all wishing me a happy birthday.

I'm sure they must have taken him quite a while to create. Again, Arthur, my most sincere thanks, I have the entire set on the walls of my very private bedroom. I'm proud of these as few would go to all that trouble for an unseen friend. I asked him for a few highlights about himself with the idea in mind, even before Eddie made his request, to do



From a self-made sketch

something about him. I have his letter before me and possibly tis best I give you what he wrote.

"I was born on the 21st of June 1914 and my father had died at sea a few months earlier. He was buried with a number of other seamen in the Canary Islands. My mother was left as a widow with a new born child to look after and a five pound note from the shipping company in compensation! I was born and christened within the sound of the Bow Bells and grew up in the tougher working class districts of London. I went to Addison Gardens London County

Council School and was not a marked success and at 14 found myself queuing at the Sulgrave Road Labour Exchange. It was a bleak time between the wars. I drew and wrote poetry but it was a private thing that no one ever saw or read. In the first months of 1940 I was called up for the army and went into the 1/6 South Staffordshire Regiment. After the dreary years of peace I did not mind the army. I volunteered as a rear gunner for the RAF and such is the way of the army that I found myself a radar mechanic in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. I went across with the forward infantry but never firing a shot in anger. Cut off in the relief of Arnheim we were diverted over the Rhine and finished the war in Hamburg. Discharged from the army in 1945 and looking for a job I took on the job of a London bus conductor and all that can be said about that is that it pays the rent. I began to paint seriously and after one or two good notices, I had a one man show at the Woodstock Gallery off Bond Street that won me some good write-ups from the critics. Again a period of personal depression and I have not painted for nearly two years, now. An odd poem or two and a short

story published has kept my spirits from really slugging.

"Just after the war I decided to buy a number one copy of the old defunct MAGNET and from then on I began to collect and collect until I have now had to call a halt to it for lack of space and money. I was always collecting in a vacuum and I wrote to the various dealers asking them if they knew of any collecting clubs and the mealy answer was always NO and did I want to buy, etc., etc., etc. I wrote off to Turner, the author of BOYS WILL BE BOYS and he gave me the addresses of the Dime Novel Round-up and the English Collector's Digest. Enrollment in both followed after a short correspondence."

Well, boys, that's it, but insofar as I've observed from Arthur's letters he is entirely too modest. I see so many sketches in our so called comic strips that in my opinion are quite sad compared to his.

I predict that that boy will one day get the real big break and go places. I'm sure me lad that we fellows all wish you the best of luck. Clever drawings with real humor—that's a combination hard to find these days.

The End

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For the first time in 5 years there has been a net decrease in membership. Eight members died, Fred T. Singleton, Floyd L. Beagle, Frank C. Willson, Herbert Leckenby, Edward W. Hartung, Frank Algar, Bob Brown, and Fred P. Pitzer. 15 members were dropped through disinterest or other reasons. W. E. Bennett, Kenneth H. Dunshee, Robert Conahay, Jr., George F. Clements, C. E. H. Whitlock, Herman Brauner, Frank V. Lay, Eddie Smart, William Behrens, Miss Anne P. Brennan, Joseph F. Ferko, Henry Sussmar, David Gizer, Casimir J. Prell, Ralph T. Barney. 23 new members joined beginning with No. 207 above.

### CORRECTION

The first sentence of the 3rd paragraph, Page 75 of the September issue of the Round-up should read as follows: "The connection with Ellis rests on an advertisement of 'The Patriot Highwayman' (Irwin P. Beadle's Ten Cent Novels No. 3) as by 'by Capt. Carleton.' Now Capt. Carleton was a pen name of Ellis and 'The Patriot Highwayman' when published, was by the author of 'Leah the Forsaken' (Augustin Daly)."

### NEWSY NEWS

By Ralph F. Cummings

Ralph Gardner has added a perfect copy of "Timothy Crump's Ward" to his Alger collection. He has been offered \$1000.00 for it. Anyone want to offer more? The rare ones can still be found if one is persistent and doesn't give up looking.

Word has been received that Edward W. Hartung died July 26, 1960. Mr. Hartung was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1919. He was a member of the Happy Hours Brotherhood since 1955.

Also Mr. Floyd L. Beagle of Latham, New York, a member since 1940 died March 9, 1960. Mr. Beagle served in the west with the Army during the Cheyenne uprisings and in the Philippines after the Spanish-American War. He was a member of the New York State police retiring with rank of Captain in 1942.

P. J. Moran has lots of fine items for sale in Beadles Dime and Nickel Novels and story papers, old books, magazines and what-not, if you could only see them I'm sure your interest would be right up to the pin point right away. See his ad on page 35 in the Roundup for April. Says he has lots and lots of fine items to sell, so be sure to write to him. His ad-



dress is 2040 Almond Ave., Concord, Calif.

Wm. Michaels of Mattapan, Mass. landed some dandy low numbers of Pluck and Luck for his collection, and some of the numbers were under No. 100 at that.

Elmer L. (Brad) Bradley of Union City, N. J., sent in a fine article that appeared in "The Newark Sunday News," Aug. 23, 1959, on "When Novels Cost a Dime." Paper back thrillers in New Jersey Collection, Sam Cousley of Englewood, noted collector of Americana, with part of his extensive library of old paperback thrillers of the 1890's and 1900's, with pictures of Three Chums, Bowery Boy, Work and Win, Beadles Library of Choice Fiction, Frank Starr's American Novels, War and others. Sure a fine display.

Wallace H. Waldrop is still plugging away on the old timers. They sure help to keep him young.

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Harold Poore

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